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SENATOR ALLARD PRAISES SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR'S SERVICE ON UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT

'Nation owes her a debt of gratitude'

Washington, D.C. – Colorado U.S. Senator Wayne Allard on Friday praised retiring U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor for her years of service on the bench of our nation's highest tribunal.

"The nation owes Justice O'Connor a debt of gratitude," Senator Allard said. "In accepting a lifetime appointment as a guardian of the Constitution, Sandra Day O'Connor dedicated her life to the service of her country and the rule of law."

In addition to filling the Supreme Court vacancy, Senator Allard will continue to push for the confirmation of all of President Bush's judicial nominations, and hopes that in the upcoming debate, the Senate will move expeditiously to fulfill its obligation of advise and consent.

"As a Westerner, Justice O'Connor had an understanding of the importance of water and water law to our Western way of life," Senator Allard said. "Colorado and the West benefited from her expertise to an extraordinary degree. I will ask the President to nominate a Supreme Court justice with experience in Western resource law."

"It is my hope that the deliberative process for confirming a new nominee to the court is treated with great respect. In addition, I urge my colleagues in the Senate to act expeditiously once the President forwards the nomination to the Senate," Senator Allard said.

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